

CLAIMS

Having thus described the aforementioned invention, we claim:

1. An inflatable thermal blanket for providing a conditioned gas to a portion of a body of a human and providing access to the human, said inflatable thermal blanket comprising:

a first sheet fabricated of an air permeable material;

a barrier sheet that is impermeable to the conditioned gas; and

an second sheet fabricated of an air impermeable material, said first sheet and said second sheet having a cutout portion adapted to fit about a neck of the human, said barrier sheet disposed between said first sheet and said second sheet, said second sheet attached to said first sheet at a first seam, said first seam defining an inflatable portion, said inflatable portion including:

an inlet port opening into said inflatable portion, said inlet port for receiving the conditioned gas;

a pair of outside channels positioned along opposing sides of the inflatable portion, said pair of outside channels for exhausting the conditioned air;

at least one channel formed between said pair of outside channels, said barrier sheet positioned in said at least one channel for preventing the exhaustion of the conditioned air from said at least one channel; and

a through-opening positioned between said pair of outside channels, said through-opening defined by a second seam joining said first sheet and said second sheet, said through-opening penetrating said first sheet and said second sheet, said through-opening having a lip between an edge and said second seam.

2. The inflatable thermal blanket of Claim 1 wherein said inflatable thermal blanket is sterilized.

3. The inflatable thermal blanket of Claim 1 wherein said barrier sheet is a continuous sheet that is air impermeable, said barrier sheet having a cutout portion adapted to fit about a neck of the human.

4. The inflatable thermal blanket of Claim 1 further including a
5 perforated seam for creating a slit.

5. The inflatable thermal blanket of Claim 4 wherein said perforated seam is located between a neck cutout portion and said through-opening.

6. The inflatable thermal blanket of Claim 4 wherein said perforated seam is located between said pair of outside channels.

10 7. An inflatable thermal blanket for providing a conditioned gas to a portion of a body of a human and providing access to the human, said inflatable thermal blanket comprising:

an inflatable portion formed from a first sheet and a second sheet, said first sheet being air permeable and said second sheet being air impermeable, said
15 inflatable portion including:

an inlet port opening into said inflatable portion, said inlet port for receiving the conditioned gas;

a pair of outside channels positioned along opposing sides of the inflatable portion, said pair of outside channels for exhausting the
20 conditioned air;

at least one channel formed between said pair of outside channels;

a barrier sheet positioned in said at least one channel for preventing the exhaustion of the conditioned air from a portion of said inflatable portion; and

a through-opening positioned between said pair of outside channels, said through-opening defined by a second seam joining said first sheet to said second sheet, said through-opening penetrating said first sheet and said second sheet, said through-opening having a lip between an edge and said second seam.

8. The inflatable thermal blanket of Claim 7 further including a cutout portion adapted to fit about a neck of the human.

9. The inflatable thermal blanket of Claim 7 wherein said barrier sheet is a continuous sheet that is air impermeable.

10. The inflatable thermal blanket of Claim 7 further including a perforated seam located between a neck cutout portion and said through-opening, said perforated seam for creating a slit.

11. The inflatable thermal blanket of Claim 7 further including a perforated seam located between said pair of outside channels, said perforated seam for creating a slit.

12. The inflatable thermal blanket of Claim 7 wherein said inflatable thermal blanket is sterilized.

13. An inflatable thermal blanket for providing a conditioned gas to a portion of a body of a human and providing access to the human, said inflatable thermal blanket comprising:

an inflatable portion formed from a first sheet and a second sheet, said first sheet being air permeable and said second sheet being air impermeable, said inflatable portion including:

an inlet port opening into said inflatable portion, said inlet port for receiving the conditioned gas;

a pair of outside channels positioned along opposing sides of the inflatable portion, said pair of outside channels for exhausting the conditioned air;

at least one channel formed between said pair of outside channels;
5 and

a barrier sheet positioned in said at least one channel for preventing the exhaustion of the conditioned air from said at least one channel;

at least one tape strip attached to an edge of said inflatable thermal blanket, said at least one tape strip adapted for securing said inflatable thermal blanket to
10 the human.

14. The inflatable thermal blanket of Claim 13 wherein said inflatable thermal blanket is sterilized.

15. The inflatable thermal blanket of Claim 13 further including a perforated seam located between said pair of outside channels, said perforated
15 seam for creating a slit.

16. An inflatable thermal blanket for providing a conditioned gas to a portion of a body of a human and providing access to the human, said inflatable thermal blanket comprising:

a means for forming an inflatable portion;

20 a means for introducing the conditioned gas into said inflatable portion;

a means for exhausting the conditioned gas from said inflatable portion; and

a means for providing access through said inflatable portion.

17. The inflatable thermal blanket of Claim 16 further including a means for preventing the conditioned gas from being exhausted towards an access opening in said inflatable portion.

18. The inflatable thermal blanket of Claim 16 further including a means
5 for preventing the conditioned gas from being immediately exhausted toward a patient.

19. The inflatable thermal blanket of Claim 16 further including a means for moderating a temperature of the conditioned gas in said inflatable portion.

20. The inflatable thermal blanket of Claim 16 further including a means
10 for providing a second access through said inflatable thermal blanket.

21. The inflatable thermal blanket of Claim 16 further including a means for sterilizing said inflatable thermal blanket.

22. An inflatable thermal blanket for providing a conditioned gas to a portion of a body of a human and providing access to the human, said inflatable
15 thermal blanket comprising:

a means for forming an inflatable portion;

a means for introducing the conditioned gas into said inflatable portion;

a means for exhausting the conditioned gas from said inflatable portion; and

a means for securing said inflatable portion to the patient.

20 23. The inflatable thermal blanket of Claim 22 further including a means for sterilizing said inflatable thermal blanket.

24. The inflatable thermal blanket of Claim 22 further including a means for creating a slit.